1	2	3
		The letter by Shri Modi also refers to the AT Ray study reports regarding which the action taken has been elaborated in para 4 above. Regarding the letter by Dy. Commissioner, Dhanbad and report of Fuel Research Institute referred to in the letter by Shri Modi, the Sindri Police Station had registered two cases elaborated in para 3 above.

Action-Plan to use available mineral reserve

1501. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any action-plan to make best use of available mineral reserves in Andhra Pradesh and rest of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) In pursuance of the basic structural reforms initiated by the Government of India in July, 1991 in fiscal, industrial and trade regimes, in order to ensure faster development of mineral sector in the country including State of Andhra Pradesh, the National Mineral Policy was announced by the Central Government in March, 1993. The National Mineral Policy recognized the need for encouraging private investment including foreign direct investment and attracting state-of-the art technology in the mineral sector. Implementation of the National Mineral Policy is an ongoing process.

To give effect to the National Mineral Policy, extensive changes have been made in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, and the rules framed threunder in consultation with State Governments, mining industry, experts etc., wherever necessary. The Government is making all efforts to increase investment in mining sector by creating investment-friendly climate and removing the bottlenecks to attract such investment. For the purpose, interaction

meeting with State Governments, Central Ministries/Departments and the Investors in the mining sector are held from time to time to make the policy and procedure of grant of mineral concessions hassle-free and investor-friendly and to sensitise the various stake-holders about the reforms in the mining sector.

Army Officers accused in Tehalka episode

†1502. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several army officers accused in Tehalka tapes were found guilty in the inquiry conducted by Army Court;

(b) if so, names of these officers alongwith the charges proved against them;

(c) whether any punishment has been given to these officers by the Army Court; and

(d) if so, name of the punished officers alongwith the details of punishment given to them?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The Army Court of Inquiry found some of the army officers blame-worthy for their various acts of omission and commission as alleged in Tehelka tapes and recommended action against these officers.

Accordingly, disciplinary action against Major General PSK Chaudary, Brigadier Iqbal Singh and Colonel Anil Sahgal and Administrative action against Major General Manjit Singh Ahluwalia and Lt. Colonel B.B. Sharma, have been initiated. Administrative action against Major General Satnam Singh has since been finalized and he has been awarded 'Censure'.

Violation of Indian airspace by Pakistan's unmanned aircraft

1503. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 3 Pakistani unmanned aircrafts flew over Indian territory when our airspace was closed for them recently;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.